

POPULATION

Decennial Census and Population Estimates - The principal source for population data is the U.S. Census Bureau. The decennial census has been releasing individual and household counts and descriptions for the United States since 1790. This site provides census data at the state, county, city, area development districts (ADD) and metropolitan statistical area (MSA) levels. More detailed information is also available from the U.S. Census Bureau (www.census.gov). Detailed data from the Census Bureau is available for a wide range of topics, including age, race, education, income, language, household characteristics, housing units, and employment.

In addition to the decennial census, the Census Bureau releases population estimates and projections. Estimates are released for the nation, states, counties, minor civil divisions, incorporated places, and consolidated cities. Population estimates start with decennial census data as benchmarks and add population components of change, including births, deaths, internal migration, and international migration. Estimates for states and smaller areas are based on data series such as births and deaths, as an example. State and county population estimates are published annually. City estimates are released in odd numbered years. County population estimates are also used to provide estimates for metropolitan statistical areas.

Population Projections – The Kentucky State Data Center (KSDC), University of Louisville, releases population forecasts for Kentucky, its area development districts and counties. In addition to the county projections appearing at this site, more detailed data may be obtained from KSDC. Projections through 2030 by gender, single year of age through 85 and older, and racial categories are available. Household projections are released every ten years. You may contact the Kentucky State Data Center at (502) 852-7990. Their web site is (<http://ksdc.louisville.edu/>).

Urban and Rural – The U.S. Census Bureau defines the urban population as all persons living in (1) places of 2,500 or more inhabitants incorporated as cities and towns, (2) census designated places of 2,500 or more persons and (3) any other territory included in an urbanized area. An urbanized area comprises one or more places and the adjacent densely settled surrounding area that together has a minimum population of 50,000. The population not classified as urban constitutes the rural population.

Population by Race - Racial statistics are available from the U.S. Census Bureau from the decennial census and census estimates. The basic racial categories, as provided by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, are American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Black or African American, and White. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. The concept of race the Bureau of the Census uses reflects self-identification by respondents. Detailed racial population statistics are available from the 2000 census.

Migration – Net migration as reported by the U.S. Bureau of the Census and cooperating state population centers, is the residual of migration both into and out of an area during a specified period. It is derived by subtracting the natural increase (births, minus deaths) during the period from the change in the total population numbers during the same period.